



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 22 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of June 23, 2016, regarding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Draft Integrated Review Plan for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter* (draft IRP). Your letter expressed concerns about the draft IRP's description of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's (CASAC's) statutory responsibilities.

The draft IRP contains the current plans for the review of the air quality criteria for particulate matter (PM) and the primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for PM. The primary PM NAAQS are set to protect the public health and the secondary PM NAAQS are set to protect the public welfare from exposures to PM in ambient air.

We will take the comments you provided in your letter, as well as all public comments that we received, under consideration as we prepare the final IRP and continue the current review of the NAAQS for PM.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Matthew Davis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [davis.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:davis.matthew@epa.gov) or at (202) 564-1267.

Sincerely,

Janet G. McCabe  
Acting Assistant Administrator